

Whether there was a leprosy chapel here, which became lost,
if there were, does not appear. It is possible that the
first Leper Saints were the leprosy lepers in their prostration
days; & the history attached to the Holy Ghost-Chapel.
that during the interdict laid upon the kingdom in
the reign of John, interments took place in what
was then unconsecrated ground; that, in the course
of the interdict, the inhabitants petitioned that their
temporizing burial place should be consecrated; that
then, this chapel was built by the Brotherhood of the
guild of the Holy Ghost, & was consecrated under the
name of the Holy Ghost-Chapel. - a very rare dedication
of which this is, probably, the only example in England.

As we come upon many interesting subjects
of the medieval religious guilds, the operations of
the secular guilds were comparatively less active; but they have
received a good deal attention at the hands of
recent-historians; but the few hundred religious
guilds contemporary with them have rather dropped
out of notice. Like the secular guilds, these claimed
the principle of mutual relief to the brotherhood in
likeness, but the religious guilds were established
in the first place, for the performance works of
charity, it was required that the brotherhood should
observe certain religious services. The guild of the Holy
Ghost, which had brother lepers, appears to have employed
itself in the instruction of youth, especially, i.e. not of the
youth of Berengrave.

the religious guilds were possessed
of considerable wealth, given & left to them by
rich benefactors. This prosperity proved their
ruin. Henry VIII suppressed the religious guilds,
their property & revenues being seized & created
in the Crown; & this not because ^{any} all or ^{any} of
the guilds are accused of misconduct, but
because, as is stated with delightfull naïvete,
the King needs their chattels to carry on his
French wars? But Bishop Fox, the then Bishop
of Winchester, undertook the care of this Guild
of the Holy Ghost, & sought to save it by begged
the King to take it under his gracious protection
for the promotion of sound learning & religious
instruction. The King succeeded. The King
accepted the will of protectors, & alone of the
guilds, that of the Holy Ghost was not
suppressed.

The view of Basingstoke excavated in 1669 by
the Grand Duke of Tuscany, Cosmo III., has
special interest, as much as it gives
a fair representation of the Holy Ghost Chapel.
Enables us, with the aid of the existing remains
& the traces of foundations to add a descriptive
account of the ruins:- says Canon Gillies
an accomplished archaeologist whose
infinite perseverance, has pieced out the history
of these antiquities. ^{in interesting history of Basingstoke.}
The original building consisted of a chancel
now, with a square tower at the west end. In each
of the side walls two narrow cases
windows, indicating girls' choir in the time of
King John. This was the Chapel of the Holy Ghost
the one building served for both Chapel & School room;
as a school room, it was actually in use until
1855, when new school buildings on the Salvator
Road were opened. Mr. Gillies who went
to school, confesses to having helped to pull
down a "vast segment" of the neighbouring ruins.

The immensely thick walls, built of undressed flints which are still standing - portions of the towers point to a very early date; there is a 13th century window with deep cillay. The doorway & another window which remains can hardly be earlier than the 13th century, but - "there is little doubt that this was inserted long after the building of the walls." What remains of the building - three walls of the towers - is a heavy fragment, interesting for its great antiquity - but having little beauty, beyond. The really beautiful ruins below is the Spa Chapel of much celebrity - in its time, the resort of pilgrims, & visited, are few seen, by at least one distinguished foreigner. It was built by Sir Williams, afterwards Lord Williams Sandy, with the concurrence of Bishop Foxe. His first petition to King Henry VII, is extant, asking for license to "found a free Chapel". The new Chapel was partly incorporated with the old; it was designed by Lord Sandy as a burying place for his family, & was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, though now the ruins of both buildings are known as the Chapel or Chapel of the Holy Ghost. This latter building was never used as a school room.

~~The founder's great grandfather, William Lord Sandy, the third baron, of the town, by his will dated 15th October 1621, directs that his body should be buried "in the chapel aforesaid erected & dedicated to the honour of the Holy Trinity, by William, late Lord Sandy, my great grandfather deceased, late Lord Chamberlain to the late King of famous memory King Henry the eighth, adjoining town Chapel called the Holy Ghost Chapel, near to the town of Basingstoke in the County of Southampton, by my said great grandfather appointed for the burial place of him who his postdeceased.~~

EDWARD VI

Of this Chapel, an exceedingly graceful specimen remains, showing the south windows & a hexagonal apse at the east end; a second apse appears to have been lost. The style is a curious mixture of classical & Perpendicular, with classical details, but the whole effect is more pleasing. The ruin as it stands, heavily draped with ivy, is a very ~~pleasing~~^{pleasing} & beautiful object. It was its interior, however, that was much admired by contemporary writers. Camden speaks with praise of the pictures on the wth, & the beautiful stained glass windows are instances as amongst the finest in the country.

This was the Chapel built by Lord Sandys in conjunction with Bishop Fox. "In a grant of Henry VIII's to the Guild of the Holy Ghost" is described as 'Founded by the late Bishop of Winchester (i.e. Richard Fox) & the said Lord Sandys, by the license of the King in his M^tre. But now, under the Great Seal of England to the Aldermen, two Wardens, certain brethren & their priors'. This deed, however, relates to the Second Foundation of the Guild."

Edward VI succeeded the Guild of the Holy Ghost, its school was suspended, & the Chapel deserted. Later, on the accession of Mary, the inhabitants of Buscot ^{successively} removed the Crown Rentroll to an ancient Guild employing the poor officers of the accomplished Cardinal Pole. ~~In family reason had the intent of having this here connected with a family of new noblemen~~
~~strangers were admitted in the mth. Queen Elizabeth converted the institution into a Grammar School with still flourishes or endowments derived from the estates of the Brotherhood. The number of scholars is now eight, with a sufficient~~

The steps by which the history of these antiquities
has been completed are full of interest - as exciting
as a romance. For instance, how were two
Sandys tombs, one ~~to~~^{the memory of} Lord Sandys
~~to~~^{the memory of}, & one, to the memory of his father, Sir
William Sandys, & Margaret - his wife. The latter
tomb was preserved, being built upon the thickness
of the walling, while that of Lord Sandys ^{which stood in the angle between} was known
to have altogether disappeared. Nevertheless, he
was still to be seen ^{with the Sandys} two tombs ^{bearings} ~~two~~
Sandys arms. How was a puzzle which demanded
solution. Somehow it transpired that Dr.
James Mal, an eminent archaeological
had the specifications for the tombs ^{regarding}
in French, in his possession. But he was
now abroad, nor knew exactly where. At
last he was heard of at Bruges, & kindly produced
the document, the original contract between
Lord William Sandys & Arnold Hermanszoon,
a native of Amsterdam. The tombs of the
Chapel were of black stone, certainly - the 'Antony
stone' of the spec contract, but then, they were
both of the length you want of the contract, &
neither of them agreed with the description of
the slab. At last it was suggested that the
two tombs were, in fact, the two sides of the
original tomb, mounted on brick sparses
now, the slab being missing. With this in
light, everything was plain; measurements
three coats of arms, all agreed with the specification.
Again, a curious drawing, a transper
from an etching, was found in the possession
of an old inhabitant, giving a bird's eye view
of the arrangement as it appeared in 1682; &

22 P. L. 2000

Showing the elevation of the Holy Ghost-Chapel with some
spec. Query, what was the original of this transp.,
~~In~~ ^{old.} train of circumstances brought it into
possession of the same subject, with an inscription
"Copied from the walls of Boscombe in England".
A search amongst the London book-shops by the
produced Mrs. Travels, which gave rise to a new
quest. In service describes the interior of the
Chapel as very rich - the windows filled principally
stained glass. Was this glass entirely lost?
With a sort of fatality, a rumour arises presently
that some old glass, belonging to Basington's
Church, it was supposed, was in the possession
of Lady Mill, of Mottisfont, near Romsey, a
descendant of the Sandys family. Journeying
to Romsey was rewarded by the discovery of
several, unduly packed crates in a loft
which was full of stained glass, which
was found to bear the County's arms, &c., &
by various marks, identified with the glass
which had been carried for safety out of the
windows of the Holy Ghost-Chapel during
the Civil War. It was ^{it had been taken} eventually restored
on the former windows, & by this, carried to
London to be put together. It now appears in
an interesting window in the North aisle of St. Paul's
Cathedral. Some other ~~interesting~~ relics of the
Holy Ghost Chapel are still preserved at
Mottisfont - a purple velvet-alter frontal
book covers, pulpit-hangings, - all with the
Sandys bearings, their motto, "Aide Dieu."

III

Of the pleasant walks round Basington
which we have not space to describe at length